

Purpose

To improve your ability to recognize suspects who may be medically impaired or impaired by drugs other than alcohol and to take appropriate action when you encounter such a suspect.

Objectives

- Define the term “drug” in the context of DWI enforcement.
- Describe the incidence of drug involvement in motor vehicle crashes and DWI enforcement.
- Name the major categories of drugs.

Objectives (Continued)

- Describe the observable signs associated with the major drug categories.
- Describe medical conditions and other situations that can produce similar signs.
- Describe appropriate procedures for dealing with drug-impaired or medically-impaired suspects.

One important thing that this training will not accomplish:

It will not qualify you to perform the functions of a Drug Recognition Expert.

What is a “drug”?



Working Definition of “Drug”

Any substance which, when taken into the human body, can impair the ability of the person to operate a vehicle safely.

Central Nervous System Depressants

- Alcohol
- Rohypnol
- Valium/Xanax
- GHB - Gamma-hydroxybutyrate



Central Nervous System Stimulants

- Cocaine
- Amphetamines
- Methamphetamine

Hallucinogens

- LSD
- Peyote
- MDMA (Ecstasy)



Dissociative Anesthetics

- Phencycline (PCP)
- Ketamine
- Analogs
- Dextromethorphan

Narcotic Analgesics

- Heroin
- Morphine
- Codeine
- Synthetic Opiates (e.g., Demerol, Methadone, Fentanyl)

Inhalants

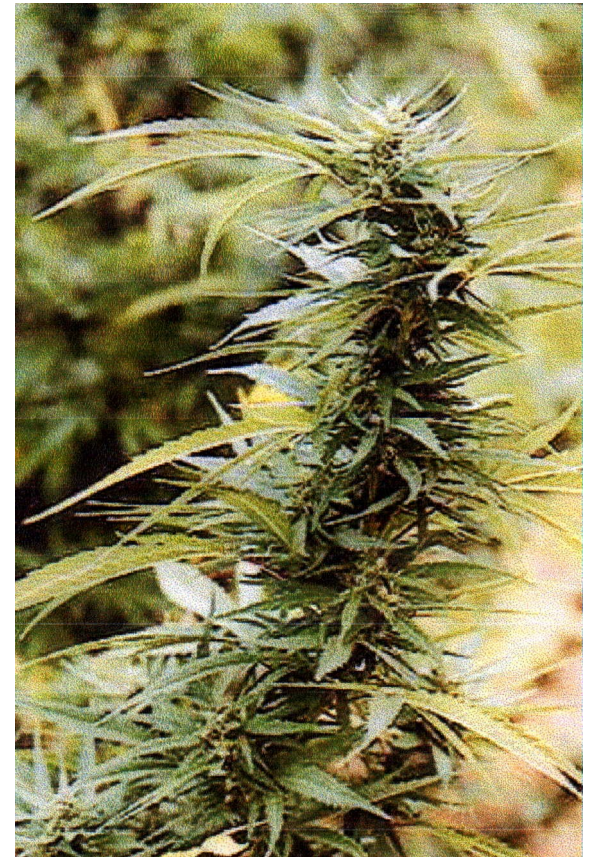


- Toluene
- Glue
- Paint



Cannabis

- Marijuana
- Hashish



Results from the 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings

- In 2004, 19.1 million Americans (7.9% of the population) aged 12 years or older were current illicit drug users.
- Marijuana was the most commonly used illicit drug in 2004, with 14.6 million.
- In 2004, 6.0 million people were users of psychotherapeutic drugs taken non-medically.
- In 2004, an estimated 2 million persons were current Cocaine users.

Fact

- University of Tennessee found 40% of crash-injured drivers had drugs other than alcohol in them.
- The Maryland Shock Trauma Center found nearly one-third of crash-injured drivers had recently used Marijuana.



Studies show that nearly 20% of fatally-injured drivers have ingested drugs or a combination of drugs and alcohol.

The Eye Examinations

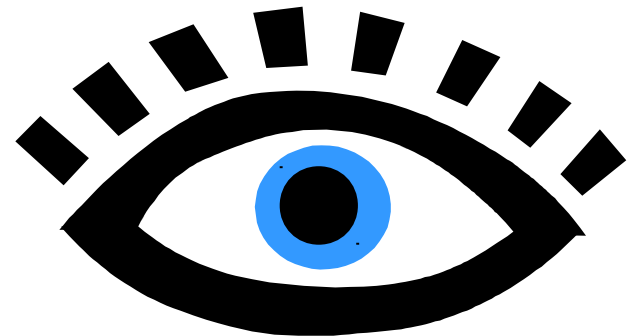


Drugs That Induce Nystagmus

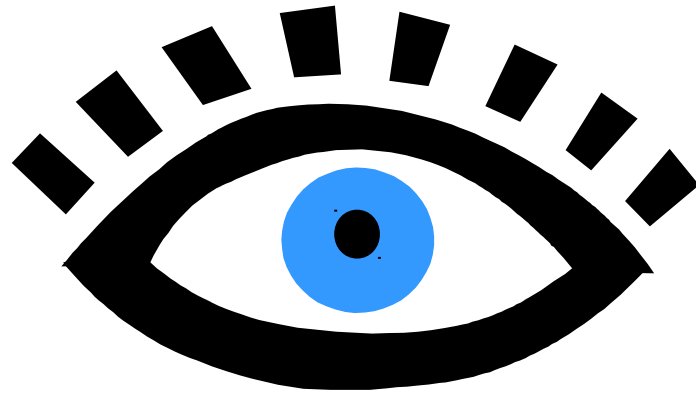
- CNS Depressants
- PCP
- Inhalants

Drugs Causing Pupil Dilation

- CNS Stimulants
- Hallucinogens
- Cannabis

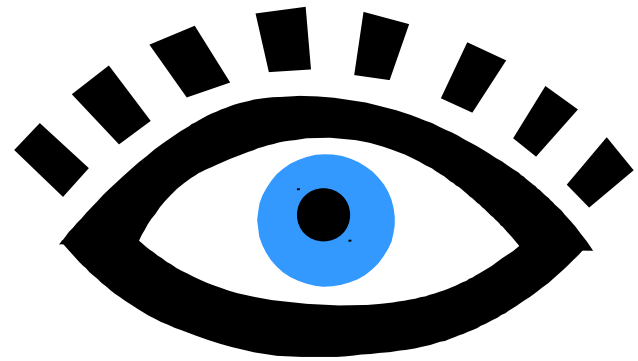


Narcotic Analgesics Usually Cause Pupil Constriction

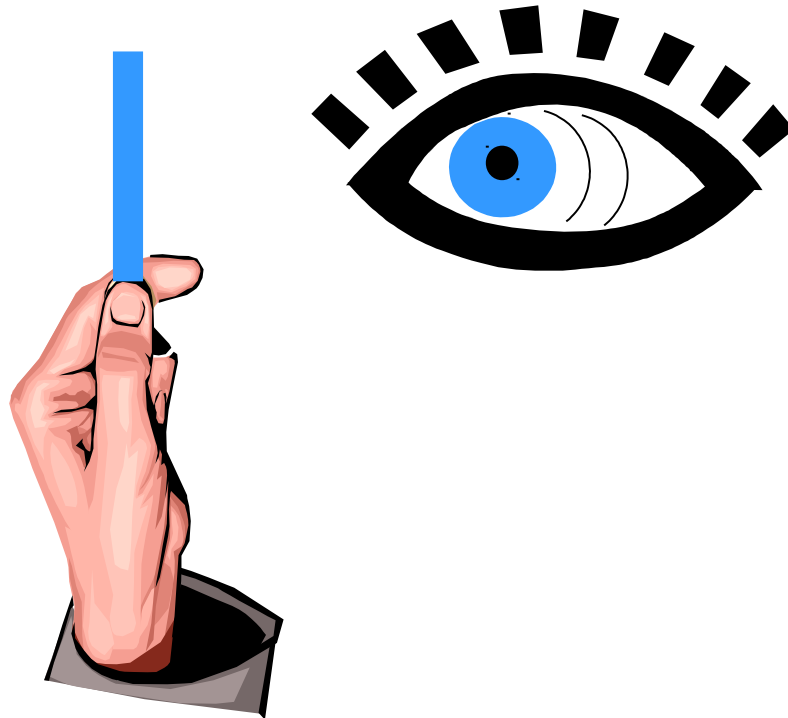


Drugs That Usually Don't Affect Pupil Size

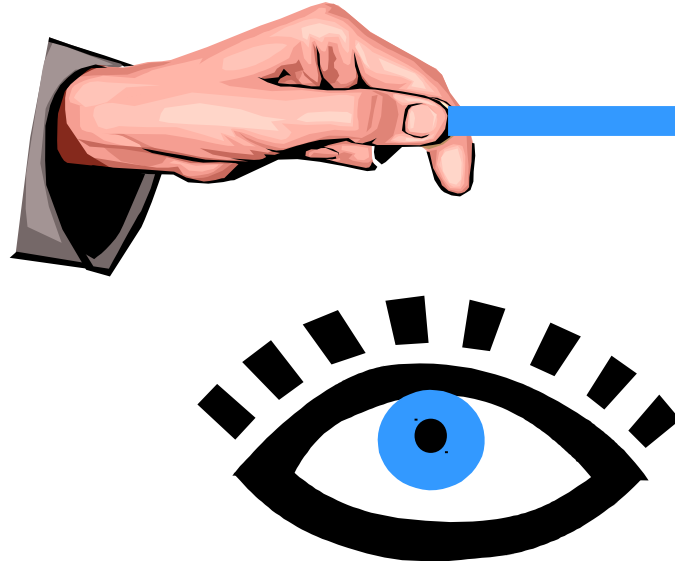
- CNS Depressants
- PCP
- Inhalants



PCP May Cause Immediate Onset of Nystagmus



Vertical Nystagmus



Central Nervous System Depressants

- Alcohol
- Rohypnol
- Valium/Xanax
- GHB - Gamma-hydroxybutyrate



Indicators of CNS Depressant Impairment

General Indicators

- Drunken behavior and appearance
- Uncoordinated
- Drowsy
- Sluggish
- Disoriented
- Thick, slurred speech

Eye Indicators

- Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus
- Possible Vertical Nystagmus*
- Pupil size generally normal (but dilated by Methaqualone and Soma)

*With high doses for that individual

Central Nervous System Stimulants

- Cocaine
- Amphetamines
- Methamphetamine

Indicators of CNS Stimulant Impairment

General Indicators

- Restlessness, Excitation
- Talkative
- Euphoria
- Exaggerated Reflexes
- Anxiety
- Grinding Teeth
- Redness to Nasal Area
- Runny Nose
- Body Tremors

Eye Indicators

- No Nystagmus
- Pupils will be noticeably dilated

Hallucinogens

- LSD
- Peyote
- MDMA (Ecstasy)



Synesthesia

Transposing of the Senses

“Seeing Sounds”
“Hearing Colors”



Indicators of Hallucinogen Impairment

General Indicators

- Hallucinations
- Dazed Appearance
- Disoriented, Uncoordinated
- Body Tremors
- Perspiring
- Paranoia
- Difficulty in Speech
- Nausea
- Piloerection (goose bumps)

Eye Indicators

- No Nystagmus
- Pupils will be noticeably dilated

Dissociative Anesthetics

- Phencyclidine (PCP)
- Ketamine
- Analogs
- Dextromethorphan

Indicators of Dissociative Anesthetic Impairment

General Indicators

- Warm to the Touch
- Perspiring
- Blank Stare
- Repetitive Speech
- Incomplete Verbal Responses
- Confused
- Muscle Rigidity
- Possibly Violent and Combative

Eye Indicators

- Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus often with Very Early Onset
- Pupils Size Generally Normal

Narcotic Analgesics

- Heroin
- Morphine
- Codeine
- Synthetic Opiates (e.g., Demerol, Methadone, Fentanyl)

The Concept of Tolerance for a Drug

- The same dose of the drug will produce diminishing effects.
- A steadily larger dose is needed to produce the same effect.

Indicators of Narcotic Analgesic Impairment

General Indicators

- “On the Nod”
- Droopy Eyelids
- Depressed Reflexes
- Dry Mouth
- Facial Itching
- Low, Raspy Speech
- Possible Puncture Marks, “Tracks”

Eye Indicators

- No Nystagmus
- Pupils will be constricted

Inhalants



- Toluene
- Glue
- Paint



Indicators of Inhalant Impairment

General Indicators

- Disorientation
- Slurred Speech
- Residue of Substance on Face, Hands, Clothing
- Confusion
- Possible Nausea

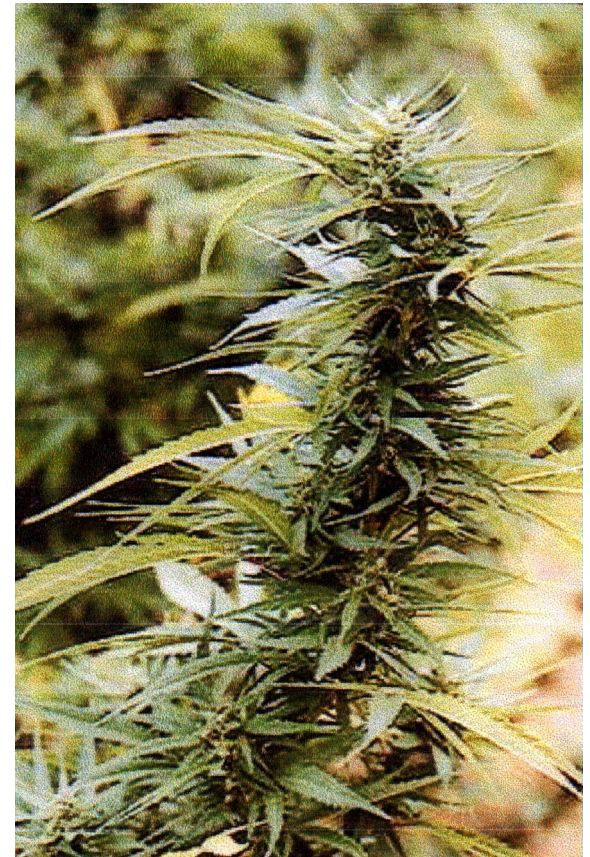
Eye Indicators

- Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus will be present
- Vertical Nystagmus may be present*
- Pupil size generally normal

*High doses for that individual

Cannabis

- Marijuana
- Hashish



Indicators of Cannabis Impairment

General Indicators

- Very bloodshot eyes, with pronounced veins in the eyeballs
- Body Tremors
- Odor of Marijuana
- Disoriented
- Relaxed Inhibitions
- Difficulty in Dividing Attention

Eye Indicators

- No Nystagmus
- Pupil size usually will be dilated - but may be normal

Polydrug Use

Use of two or more drugs at the same time.

EXAMPLES:

- Alcohol and Almost Anything Else
- PCP and Cannabis
- Heroin and Cocaine
- Many Others

General Types of Polydrug Effects

ADDITIVE

(The two drugs independently produce similar effects on the indicator)

EXAMPLE

Stimulant and Hallucinogen will both dilate the pupils

General Types of Polydrug Effects

ANTAGONISTIC

(The two drugs produce opposite effects on the indicator)

EXAMPLE

Stimulants usually cause pupil dilation,
Narcotic Analgesics usually cause constriction.

General Types of Polydrug Effects

OVERLAPPING

(Each drug affects the indicator in a different way)

EXAMPLE

PCP causes nystagmus but doesn't affect pupil size; Narcotic Analgesics constrict pupils, but do not cause nystagmus. Nystagmus will be seen.

General Types of Polydrug Effects

NULL

(Neither drug has an effect on the indicator.)

EXAMPLE

Stimulants do not cause nystagmus. Narcotic Analgesics do not cause nystagmus. Therefore, nystagmus will not be present.

Closing

Although this course is not designed to qualify you as a DRE, it is intended to make you more knowledgeable when encountering suspects impaired by substances other than alcohol.